MSEA
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WMU
FIELD STUDY

Final report

Japan

May 07 – 14, 2023

Acknowledgements

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Hai Vuong

08 May 2023

Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology (TUMSAT): The visit to the University was begun by a brief introduction regarding education and training at the institution. It was interesting to know about their fleet of training and research vessels, including a sailing training vessel. The following presentation was about artificial propagation technology and resources of octopus. After that, the technical tour around fish tanks was conducted. The overall impression is the institution's contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

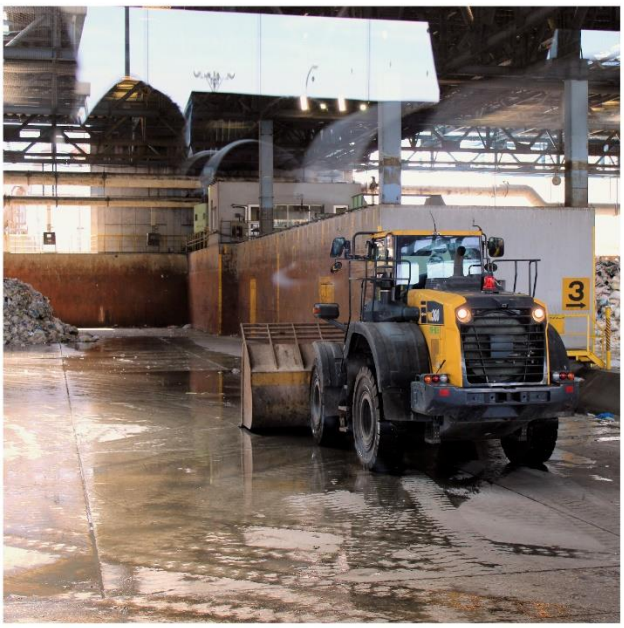
Maritime Bureau | Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT): There were presentations regarding the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and Japan's maritime policy on decarbonization of international shipping, as well as the operation, regional and international cooperation of the Japan Coast Guard.

The Nippon Foundation: The WMU Delegation had an opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to Dr. Yohei Sasakawa through individual and collective speeches; besides, it is our privilege to listen to the valuable advices and sharing from the Chairman. The warm courtesy of the Nippon Foundation still remains in us after the visit.

09 May 2023

Tokyo Metropolitan Government Waste Landfill Site: We visited the facility and were very interested in the techniques and procedures that were utilized in waste treatment. It is important to note that in Japan, waste management is highly developed. For instance, waste is sorted and separated adequately at their very sources; then, waste is transferred, processed, recycled or disposed. In the personal opinion, the most interested sites at the facility are the landfill area where the sandwich method is used to cover soils above waste with one layer above another.

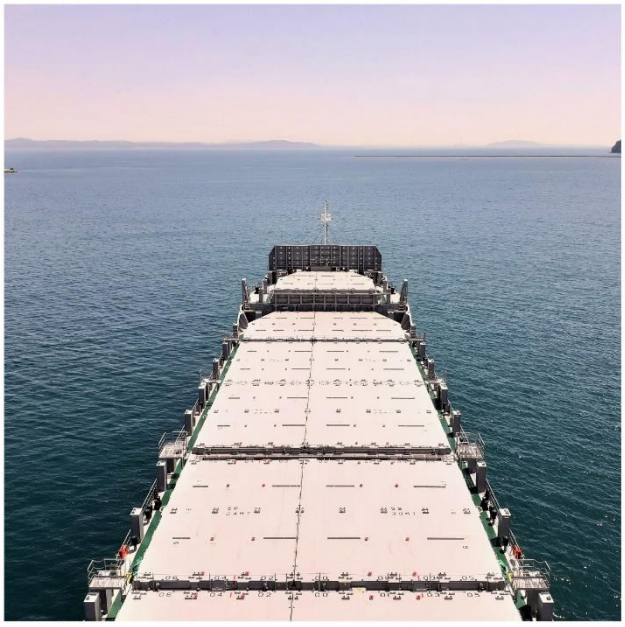
Ariake Water Reclamation Center: The visit began with a presentation regarding the sewerage system. The system was explained in detail, from the sources of factories and houses to the last stage of discharge into the open water. After that, a site tour was conducted with a close observation of reaction tank and sedimentation tank, where we can see the cleanliness of water after treatment process. It is our privilege to experience the work of "the water guardians" through the tour into the tunnel underneath the wastewater treatment plant, where the operation of the sewerage system is presented utilizing both technology and creativity.

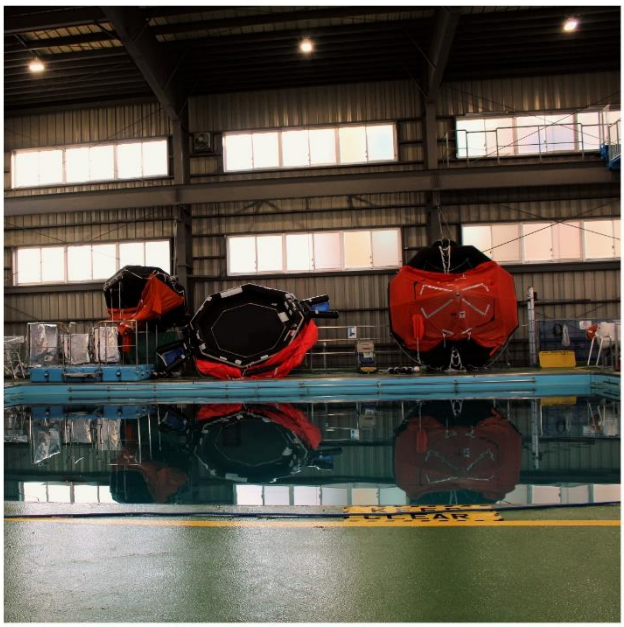


10 May 2023

Kyokuyo Shipyard: The facility welcomed the Delegation and introduced us with briefings regarding operations at the shipyard. After the presentation, we were introduced on-scene about each stage of ship building. In the personal experience as a former seafarer, besides observing and working when one of the previous vessels was docked for maintenance and repair in the *Port of Dunkirk (France)*, this is the first time visiting a shipyard and witnessing the whole process of building ships from their keels to their topmasts. It is unforgettable to mention those patriotic and romantic songs that the shipyard specially broadcasted through their PA system during the technical tour. Ultimately, we had an opportunity to board a newly built ship, and also to attend her departure ceremony. Our hearts beat and vibrated as the melody of the song *Auld Lang Syne* echoing all over the pier, where we wished "*seven feet under the keel*" to her maiden voyage and beyond.

Nippon Survival Training Center (NSTC): The institution introduced us with an overview about the training center, their expertise, and the courses which they are delivering in compliance with the IMO's STCW Convention. We also had a chance to visit the embarkation and launching stations of the life boats.





11 May 2023

Port of Hakata: The port's representative introduced us with an overview of the premise, Japan's port policy, features and current status of the port. It was interesting to experience their live presentation, in which, the history, development, and the implementation plan on decarbonization were delivered to the Delegation at the same time with touring around special wharves. After that, the Delegation boarded a cruising boat for a trip sailing around the port, where cargo terminals and container cranes were appeared in front of our eyes.

Kanmon Kaikyo Vessel Traffic Service Center: The VTS Center introduced us in detail how a daily operation and a watch of an operator are carried out. Besides, we also had opportunities to interact and ask questions with the operators and the supervisors at the Center. From the weather deck of the VTS Center building, under the digital information signal board, we had a special chance to observe the Kanmon Passage, with inbound and outbound vessels navigating safely in the fairway. It is important to mention that Japan is one of the countries in the world, e.g., besides the *USA* and *Canada*, with interesting difference in using the IALA Maritime Buoyage System Region B, in which the starboard lateral marks are red and the port's – green.

12 May 2023

FURUNO: We visited the factory of FURUNO. The representatives introduced us in detail the production stages of, for instance, doppler sonar, navigation radar antenna and monitor, etc. It was an interesting and one-of-a-kind experience to witness the process of producing and assembling from the tiny details to the final and complete equipment. The visit showed the state of the art in technology and production of navigational equipment in Japan. In personal seafaring career and the current shore-based career, this is the second but unique opportunity to have a close insight of those equipment, besides when we studied navigational technical equipment at the maritime academy.

HSN-KIKAI KOGYO Co., Ltd.: The Company provided us with an interesting tour around their factory, including introductions regarding the productions of various marine-related equipment, and technologies for vegetable growers on-board vessels, as well as the hydroponic systems utilized in the green houses. One of the most interesting parts of the technical tour was the introduction and presentation about 15-ppm bilge separators in compliance with the IMO's MARPOL Convention and relevant MEPC Resolutions.

13 May 2023

Kinkaku-ji Temple: The complex is located within a large Japanese garden. The architecture of the main temple is highlighted by the golden color and the typical Japanese curled roofs.

Ryoanji Temple: In personal opinion, the visit to this magnificent temple was a great lesson. The Zen concept was introduced and explained by Ms. Miyo-san. Thanks to her knowledge and demonstration about Japan, Japanese culture and philosophy, understandings regarding the dynamics between different perspectives, perfection versus imperfection, and general lessons from fifteen rocks in the Zen Garden, blossom.

Heian Jingu Shrine: The shrine, which is a mega complex with a typical mixture of orange and red colors, together with a large yard in front of the main temple, will never be erased in our memories.

Kiyomizu-dera Temple: This magnificent temple is located on the top of a hill. There are many Buddhist statues in various places around the complex. Fortunately, the visit was refreshed by a rain. There are many shops on the way downhill, where visitors can buy Japanese traditional products.

“Those were unforgettable memories, days in Japan.”

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博多港 PORT OF HAKATA

FURUNO

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